BIRDING NOTES Compiled by Aasheesh Pittie

This column publishes notes in brief telegraphic form, from **Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu** on interesting and significant sightings and behaviour like breeding, feeding, migration, nesting, etc. Notes on threatened birds are also welcome. Their status '*' follows BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened Birds of Asia*. English names, sequence and scientific nomenclature follow Manakadan & Pittie (2002): Standardised English and scientific names of the birds of the Indian Subcontinent. *Newsletter for Birdwatchers* 42(3): i-viii, 1-36. Unless specified, all observations are for 2002. Abbreviations, Contributors, Notes, Regional Referees, *etc.*, are at the end. For selection of breeding criteria 'Probable, Possible, Confirmed', see *Pitta* # 82, February 1998, p. 4.

ANDHRA PRADESH

HYDERABAD DISTRICT

Nehru Zoological Park (H. Taher, M.S. Kulkarni, M.Shafaat Ulla)

18.v: SMALL GREENBILLED MALKOHA 2; GREY HERON ad 8, imm 3; PURPLE HERON 2; PAINTED SNIPE 10; SPOTBILLS 30; LESSER WHISTLING TEAL 9; BLACKWINGED STILTS 20; DARTER 4; LARGE CORMORANT 6; SHIKRA 1; BAYA const.; LARGE EGRETS 4; PIED KINGFISHER 2; SMALL BLUE KINGFISHER 1; MAGPIE ROBIN const; GOLDEN ORIOLE hrd.

Sanjivayya Park (M.M. Ali Khan, M. Shafaat Ulla)

1.vi: PIED MYNA 1, building CN in avenue tree (*Tabebuia speetabilis*) c 15 foot height; HOUSE CROW CN in Jacaranda c 20 feet high; GOLDEN ORIOLE M-2, F-2; PIED CRESTED CUCKOO 1; SPOTTED MUNIAS 2 PRB; HOOPOE 1.

Banjara Hills (M. Shafaat Ulla)

20.iv: PURPLE RUMPED SUNBIRD 2, CB, yng 1.

RANGAREDDI DISTRICT

Ananthagiri (Pranay Rao)

2.v: PARADISE FLYCATCHER, M-2, F-2; ORANGEHEADED GROUND THRUSH 3; GREY HEADED MYNA 4; BONELLI'S EAGLE, ad 2, YNG 2, (Adults presenting a small bird to young); CRESTED SERPENT EAGLE, CB, N; CRESTED HAWK EAGLE, CB, N.

ABBREVIATIONS: Ab-abundant; ad-adult/s; br-breeding; C-common/ly; *c.*-approximately; CB-confirmed breeding; CD*-conservation dependent; const-construction/ing; CR*-critical; DD*-data deficient; disp-display/ing; EN*-endangered; F-female; flt-flight; fly-family; freq-frequent/ly; hrd-heard; id-identify/ied; imm-immature; inc-include/ing; Is-Island; juv-juvenile; LM-local migrant; M-male; mat-material; N-nest/ing/s; NT*-near threatened; OH-overhead; POB-possible breeding; PRB-probable breeding; plm-plumage; RF-Reserve Forest; Resp-respectively; Tlk-Taluk; vil-village; VU*-vulnerable; WL-wildlife; yng-young.

REGIONAL REFEREES: Andhra Pradesh: Aasheesh Pittie; Delhi: Suresh Chand Sharma; Goa: Heinz Lainer; Haryana: Suresh Chand Sharma; Karnataka: S. Subramanya; Kerala: P.O. Nameer; Maharashtra: Nitin Jamdar; Punjab: H.S. Sangha; Rajasthan: H.S. Sangha; Tamil Nadu: V. Santharam.

Solutions to BIRDWORD No. 1

1 = Sandpiper; 2 = Plover; 3 & 7 = Whitecollared Kingfisher; 4 = Coppersmith; 5 = Wren Warbler; 6 = Ring Dove; 8= Nightjar; 9 & 11 = Wryneck; 10 & 12 = Large Grey Babbler

PIGEON POST

In our PITTA No. 144 of April 2003, it was announced that our regular indoor meetings were being discontinued henceforth. Since no reason was given for taking such a decision, many of our members are sorely disappointed and have expressed their strong desire that the indoor meetings should be restored immediately. One senior member is so upset that he went on to say that no association or society can survive if meetings of members at least once a month are not organised, even if the attendance is very thin sometime. He may not be alone to think on these lines and we feel many others would endorse his view.

We feel that the reason for this could be due to the work load in organizing meetings for which there may not be time. Based on this assumption, we have the following suggestions: (1) The indoor meetings every third Monday of the month should be restarted; (2) We will be jointly responsible for organizing the meeting every month; (3) We shall select the topic/speaker or any other program and shall take all necessary steps to organise the meeting; (4) The details of the programme will be given to the editorial board of PITTA well in time to enable them to announce the same in PITTA; (5) A notice will also be given to the newspapers for their 'Today's Engagements' column; (6) All the nine executive committee members should set an example and must make it a point to attend all the indoor meetings to give an impetus.

We can fine tune the process if the EC agrees with our suggestions. We however, request the EC members to give further suggestions so that the decades old tradition continues to make our society more visible and strong.

S. Ashok Kumar
M. Shafaat Ulla

For Private Circulation Only

For information, write to: Birdwatchers' Society of Andhra Pradesh, PO Box 45, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500034, India.
Editors: Siraj A. Taher, Humayun Taher (56612608), Raajeev Mathews (23310721) **Website:** http://www.bsaponline.org **E-mail:** aasheesh@vsnl.in, humayun5@rediffmail.com
Membership (Rs): Admission=100; Annual=200; Student=100 per annum. Life=2,000. *Add Rs.25/- for outstation cheques.*